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# Advocate of Peace.

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## Edward the Peacemaker.

It is a great name that King Edward VII has carried with him to the grave, or, rather, left behind to bless and uplift humanity. It is unquestionable that no ruler has ever before been so universally regarded, at all the capitals of Europe and throughout the rest of the world, as the promoter and bulwark of international peace as was he. He is conceded to have been the chief agency in bringing about the *entente cordiale* between Great Britain and France, so that friction and talk of conflict between them has practically disappeared. Through his influence also the relations between Russia and England have been greatly improved. The past two years, during the panic in Great Britain in regard to Germany, he threw the weight of his great position and personal influence against misunderstanding and hostility. How much he accomplished among the many agencies at work can never be known, but it was certainly very considerable.

King Edward was, when occasion offered, prompt to show his sympathy with the peace movement. He knighted Dr. Thomas Barclay for his services in and through the British and French Chambers of Commerce to prevent rupture between France and Great

Britain at the time of the Fashoda incident. Later he conferred knighthood on William Randal Cremer for the important work he had done for international concord in founding the Interparliamentary Union, the Workingmen's Arbitration League, in organizing international visits of labor representatives, etc. The warm receptions given by His Majesty's government to the Interparliamentary Union in 1906 and to the Universal Peace Congress in 1908, the Prime Minister on both occasions being the chief speaker, were striking manifestations of the king's love of peace. Those who were at the reception given by him in Buckingham Palace to a deputation from the Peace Congress two years ago were greatly impressed with the brotherliness and cordiality of his spirit and can never forget his declaration that "rulers and statesmen can set before themselves no higher aim than the promotion of national good understanding and cordial friendship among the nations of the world. It is the surest and most direct means whereby humanity may be enabled to realize its noblest ideals, and its attainment will ever be the object of my own constant endeavors."

It is not easy to determine the full secret of Edward's devotion to peace. Some of it came to him from the example and teaching of his royal mother and his princely father; some of it from the broadening influence of his extensive travel and contact with other peoples; some of it from the generally larger and more liberal spirit nearly everywhere prevailing to-day; some of it from his sense of responsibility as the head of a great civilized power. But the chief element in it seems to have been the personal one. He had a deeply social nature, and was spontaneously prompted from within to do and say the things which brought people into cordial relations with each other. Extending this disposition to the relations of nations to each other, he naturally developed into a world-wide peacemaker, a title which he appreciated more than any other of the many attached to his name.

There is strong reason to believe that King Edward's influence for permanent peace will not pass with his death. There was some misgiving on the part of a few lest his removal should weaken the bonds of peace among the nations of Western Europe. But the exact opposite seems likely to be the case, if one may judge from what has been said and written about him in all countries. He exhibited in respect to the mutual relations of nations a new order of kingship, which

has made of Europe a different place from what it was at his accession nine years ago. Every ruler in Europe has felt the influence of his personality and been impressed with the essential nobility of the kingly example which he has set in the international sphere. His work will abide.

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### Ex-President Roosevelt's Nobel Peace Prize Address.

On May 5 ex-President Roosevelt delivered his Nobel Peace Prize address at Christiania. We print it in full on another page, that our readers may have the full text at command.

What the ex-President said on this occasion has aroused great interest everywhere. It has been instructive to notice how eagerly the advanced positions taken by him have been seized upon by all the leaders of the peace party as indicative of the growing dissatisfaction with the present armed and distrustful state of the world, and the increasing determination that this monstrous condition shall be supplanted as quickly as possible by something more sane and economic. The other parts of the discourse, his reaffirmed views on the "peace of righteousness and justice," on the dangers of peace in the direction of cowardice and sloth, and his usual fling at what he calls "a warped and twisted sentimentality," have been for the most part passed over in silence as no longer requiring serious attention.

The noteworthy things in the address, in which Mr. Roosevelt puts himself almost abreast of the most advanced peace leaders, are three. First, he urges effective arbitration treaties, which "can cover almost all questions liable to arise between civilized nations." These treaties should stipulate mutual respect for the territory and sovereignty of the contracting nations, and should reserve from arbitration only "the very rare cases where a nation's honor is vitally concerned." He is not yet ready to go as far as President Taft, and grant that questions of honor may be arbitrated as readily as any others.

Secondly, he recommends "the further development of the Hague Tribunal, of the work of the Conferences and Courts at The Hague." He lays special emphasis on the necessity of the completion of the Court of Arbitral Justice which was in principle authorized by the second Hague Conference.

In the third place, he declares that "something should be done as soon as possible to check the growth of armaments, by international agreement." He sees "no insurmountable difficulty," for the great powers, "in reaching an agreement which would put an end to the present costly and growing extravagance of expenditure on naval armaments," provided there is sincerity of purpose on their part.

This last is really the one supremely important word uttered by Mr. Roosevelt at Christiania, and

there is reason to believe that, coming from him, it has produced a deep impression in all the capitals of the world. The practical fruit of it will not be long in appearing, whether it comes, as he suggests, in the form of a League of Peace among the great powers to keep the peace themselves and to force it, if necessary, on the rest of the world (which is hardly to be expected), or in some universal form more consonant with all the splendid triumphs which the peace movement has already won, on its own purely pacific lines.

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### The New England Peace Congress.

The Peace Congress for the six New England States, held at Hartford last month, of which an extended account is given elsewhere in this issue, was in most respects all that could have been desired. The attendance for the first two days was somewhat interfered with by rain, and not quite so many delegates came from the different parts of New England as had been hoped. In other respects no more successful peace congress of a local character has ever been held in this country. Indeed, though restricted in its field, it partook largely of the character of a national congress and its influence has gone to all parts of the country.

The business organization and management of the Congress throughout were exceptionally good, and did great credit to the Executive Committee. The expenses were kept down to much less than is usual for such meetings, owing in part to the committee's business methods and in part to the free use of their new Social Church House generously granted to the Congress by the pastor and members of the Centre Congregational Church.

The addresses, a few of which are given in this issue, were fully up to the usual standard and some of them were remarkably strong and effective. We have rarely listened to discourses of a higher order than those of Dean Rogers, the president, Hon. Jackson H. Ralston, ex-Secretary of State John W. Foster, Hon. James Brown Scott and ex-Chief Justice Simeon E. Baldwin, not to mention others which were of high merit.

The exercises in the churches of Hartford and neighboring cities on Sunday, and in the various schools on Monday forenoon, were full of interest, and the latter awakened much enthusiasm among the young people. This part of the program was carried out with greater fullness and effectiveness than we remember ever to have observed in connection with any other Congress.

The New Britain part of the program, in celebration of the one hundredth birth year of Elihu Burritt, was carried out with most remarkable success. It was a unique and striking manifestation of the growing power of the peace movement. The whole city of fifty thousand people stopped to spend the day in doing honor to